

# General arts and science program to offer an alternative

By Maria K. Hoolsma

This January, Conestoga's Doon campus will be offering a general arts and science (GAS) program intended to give failing students a second chance.

"There are going to be students who fail out of the first year of their program. What happens to them?" asked Kerina Elliott, the new co-ordinator of the general arts and sciences program. She said the program will give students flexibility and offer a positive,

rather than a negative choice.

"They (students) don't have to go to GAS. They can quit, but it's unfortunate for them to lose their credits," said Elliott.

One example might be an electrical technician student who, after one year in the program, realizes that his math and physics skills are not up to date.

Such a student may have gained credits from other courses. The student could apply to GAS and build-up his math and physics skills and then re-apply to his original

program, or he could continue and graduate with a GAS certificate said Elliott.

The GAS program has been designed as a two-year program with four components: core requirements including arts and humanities, social science and pure science (biology); general electives chosen by the student; program option, which includes courses in technology, business, health sciences and applied arts; and a preparatory program (non-

credit...not mandatory) designed for students with difficulties in math, science and English. The preparatory program is designed to help upgrade the student's ability to meet the requirements of a specific program, said Elliott.

Full-time students will carry from a minimum work load of four courses to a maximum of seven courses. Students with less than four courses will be classified as part-time.

Elliott said the program is in the midst of getting government approval.

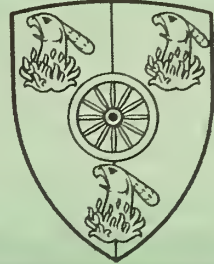
The college is hoping to encourage graduating high school students to enrol into the program. To achieve that goal, liaison personnel will visit high schools in September. Elliott said the next few weeks will be spent reorganizing the office located in room 1B20.

Thirty students are expected in January. They include students dropping out of programs and some direct entries from high school.

"So far most people receive GAS as a dump-off place and it's not," said Elliott.

## SPOKE

Conestoga College, Monday, Sept. 12, 1988



## College hires retention coaches

By Wendy Coles

Three Conestoga College faculty members have been hired as retention coaches in an effort to combat high drop-out rates in various programs, said John Tibbits, president of Conestoga College.

The college is hoping that these coaches, who will work with students in the electronic technology program, the mechanical technology program and the business administration - accounting program, can make a difference with students.

Those students include ones who might drop out of programs because of various problems such as poor time management, lack of money or difficulties finding adequate housing, said Tibbits.

The concept of retention coaches was developed by Frank Abel, a part-time consultant to the college, who has been studying retention rates on a part-time basis since 1981 and full-time since 1986.

Brad Howarth, an employee of the college for 18 years, will act as retention coach for the electronics program.

Howarth said he is not going to

get into deep counselling or tutoring but will work with a student's potential and give as much encouragement as possible throughout the program.

Howarth said he thinks the coaches will not only help retain students but will help promote programs.



Dennis Gillies

Dennis Gillies, an employee of the college for nine years, will act as retention coach for the mechanical program. He said he will try to dispel some students' confusion by showing them where they can work after they graduate by scheduling field trips to prospective work

places and arranging to have ex-students come in and speak.

Gillies said he intends to be available to students all the time. "Students are not going to have to make appointments to see me."

Anne Eby, who is in her second year of employment at the college, will act as retention coach for the accounting program.

Eby said that to be successful, coaches will have to develop a close working relationship with the other teachers in the program and get to know the students early in the first term, immediately identifying the ones that may have problems.

"It is important to get those students help before they get frustrated and give up."

Tibbits said studies show that most students drop out because of personal problems, confusion or uncertainty about their own capabilities -- not because of a lack of desire to be in the program.

He said if students can't handle the college life when they first start they may think of themselves as failures and they are unlikely to seek help on their own.

The coaches, said Tibbits, are see Retention, page 3

## College nurses feel cutback pinch

By Lynne Gourley

The termination of two part-time nursing staff at the Waterloo and Stratford campuses is giving the nurses at the Doon campus a real headache.

Due to budget cuts the nurses were released of their duties in July.

Therefore, three full-time nurses must divide their time among six

campuses.

John Podmore, director of human resources, said in an earlier interview the layoffs were the result of budget cutbacks and that the college would "have to do the best we can with the staff we have."

The nurses at the Doon campus are concerned that duties such as the mandatory testing for students in such programs as early childhood education, nursing, and the food and beverage program will be so time consuming they will be

unable to offer such programs as the weight reduction program or the blood pressure clinics that were offered last year.

In addition to testing full-time students, the nurses also have to test approximately 1,000 continuing education students.

Caroyl Glaze, nurse at the Doon campus, said it takes about 15 minutes to complete each test, mandatory for students enrolled in programs related to health services.

see Nurses, page 3

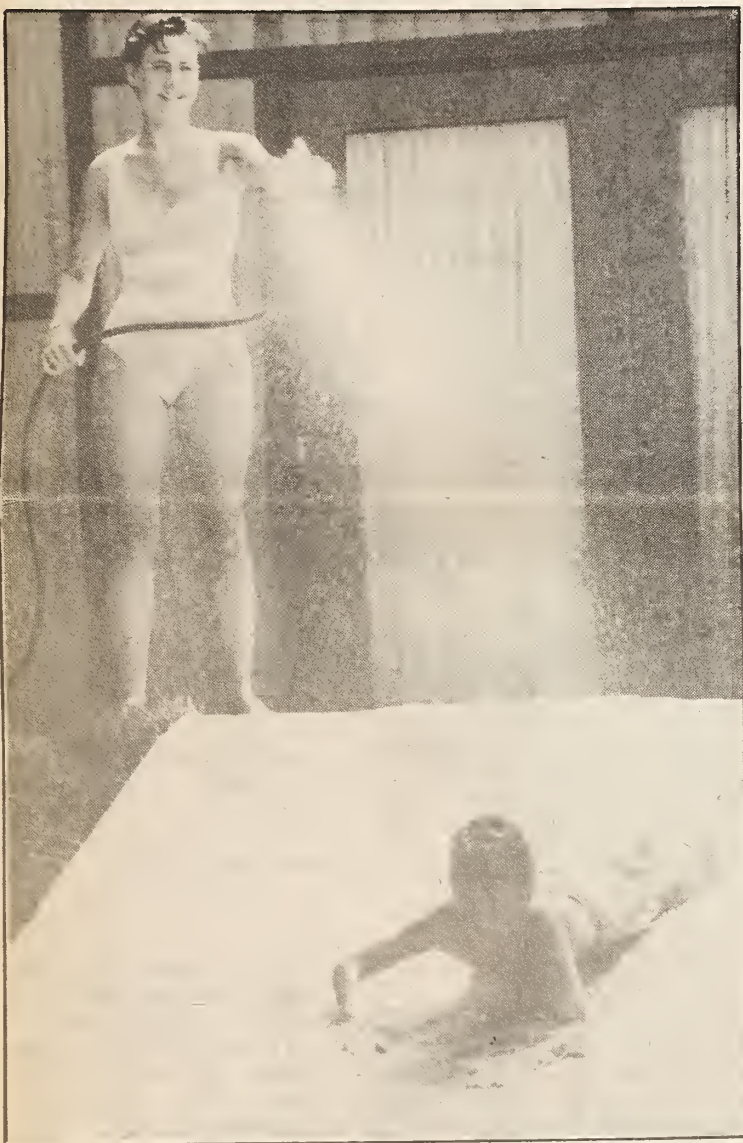


Photo by Brian Williams/Spoke

### Slip slidin' away

Summer camp leader Barbara Epp sprays the slide with water as camp participant Chris Carmichael makes the trip down on his stomach.

## August book swap has disappointing turnout

By Lynne Gourley

A book swap designed to save students money and give second and third-year students an opportunity to dispose of old books, wasn't the success the Doon Student Association (DSA) hoped it would be.

Approximately 50 first-year students showed up in the student lounge Aug. 30, hoping to buy books at a reduced rate. However,

few second-year students showed up willing to sell books.

Cheryl Wilson, DSA activities co-ordinator, said that a conflict in schedules between the nursing students may have contributed to the lack of participation.

Wilson said that she spoke with second- and third-year students and they seemed "very enthusiastic" about selling but that nursing faculty wouldn't release students early from class to participate in the swap.

She said that lists were put up so that nursing students with conflicting schedules could get in touch with each other at a different time.

Other book swaps were scheduled for Sept. 8, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sept. 9, from 11 a.m. to noon, for business, applied arts and technology programs.

Wilson said she expected the second book swap would be more successful because more students would be involved.

## INSIDE

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**Ready to kick:** The men's soccer team gets set. *Page 11*



# Opinion

## SPOKE

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## A sad tale

By Richard E. McLean

On a recent visit home, I had the opportunity to visit an elderly lady who, although we are not related, I call Grandma Smith.

Whenever we had seen each other in the past, Grandma Smith would ask me questions about what I was busy doing and appeared genuinely interested in my activities. This visit was different.

Grandma Smith has Alzheimer's disease but it wasn't until recently that she seemed greatly affected by it.

When she answered the door, she invited me in as usual, but this time she called me by her son's name, Ted.

My visit turned out to last an entire afternoon, in which time I was mistaken for her dead husband, her children, her brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts and father.

I sat there the entire time and listened to Grandma Smith relive her past through me. It was amazing that she could remember things from her past, yet could not remember me. I didn't really know what to do, so I just sat and listened.

When it was time for me to leave, I felt sad. Here I had spent an entire afternoon with a lady I loved, who no longer knew me. I had hoped throughout the day that her mind might return to the present, if only for a moment. As I was preparing to leave, I had problems holding back my tears when she demanded to know who I was and why I was in her house.

I put on my shoes, picked up my jacket and sadly started out. I knew this had been my last visit with the kind elderly lady I once knew. It seemed nothing could make me happy but then my sadness turned to joy when I heard Grandma Smith whisper two words as I shut the door.

"Good-bye Richard," she said.



*I hope there's some good looking guys in our class.*

*gmm*

You tell us:

## What would you do with \$1 million?



"You wouldn't see me. I'd be in Fiji looking for real estate."  
**John Innanen**  
Faculty-computer programmer/analyst program



"I would buy a house and a car, and give the rest of the money to my mom."  
**Winnie Lo**  
Second-year nursing



"First thing I'd do is pay off my mortgage. Second, take a nice trip. I wouldn't quit my job. Half of it would go to various members of the family, and the rest would be invested for retirement."  
**Bob King**  
Counsellor, student services



"I'd pay off all my debts, and take a holiday to the Bahamas where I'd drink lots of Bahamian liquor. When I had wasted all the money I'd come back here and finish school."  
**Heather Wood**  
Ambulance and emergency care  
One-year program

## It often takes a visual element for people to feel emotion



By  
**Antony Saxon**

To truly understand a news event it is often necessary for a person to feel the emotion that accompanies it or is caused by it. We are human beings. By nature we are not objective, and when we start being so we lose some of our humanity.

Newspapers hold a high opinion of themselves, feeling they do a better job than television at presenting news. To newspapers that means presenting clear and objective facts rather than the glossy and generic 30- or 60-second clips often seen on television.

But television offers a visual element that is often helpful and perhaps even necessary in understanding an event, something I sadly discovered on the evening of Aug. 18.

You may be familiar with the story. It involved three West German bank robbers who were pursued by police for three days before their capture.

At one point they hijacked a bus, killed a young boy, and took two teenage women as hostages. Later, when police moved in on the fugitives, both hostages were hit by gunfire and one of them was killed, probably from a bank robber's bullet. Those are the clear and objective facts.

But it was on television that I saw how the bank robbers had stopped their getaway car in a city centre long enough to give an impromptu press conference.

They sat calmly in the car brandishing re-

volvers at their two young hostages. Eventually, one of the reporters asked one of the young women how she felt. She said she was not scared anymore, but had been earlier when she thought the police were going to move in on the car. When she finished speaking she gave a wistful smile to the reporter and quietly sat back in the seat. It was true. She was not scared. Perhaps a little amazed, even awestruck, but not scared.

She looked so innocent and dwarfed by the events taking place around her, like Alice entering Wonderland.

Within the hour the pretty young woman with the wistful smile was dead from a bullet through her heart.

It was sad, tragic and a ridiculous waste. It wasn't fair that a person was dead because she decided to take a bus on a particular day in a particular place.

Watching her give the interview, knowing she had minutes to live, is what filled me with those feelings -- not the facts.

To understand the event, to be truly informed, I think it was necessary to be filled with that sadness. It was justified.

A friend once mentioned to me that the only time she felt any emotion following the recent shooting down of the Iranian jetliner was when she saw a television clip of people pulling bodies from the Persian Gulf.

It is disturbing that it is only when confronted with a visual image that we can feel the emotion that accompanies the occurrence. Thankfully, television can make us feel when newspapers fail to do so.

The name of the 18-year-old West German girl was Silke Bischoff. I will remember that name, but more importantly, I will remember her face and her haunting last smile.



# No summer rest at college

By Cathy Zegers

There were several important news stories at the college this summer.

Conestoga College sent various faculty members to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in the Persian Gulf to help set up campuses for the UAE government. These campuses will have four technology and business programs beginning in the fall.

\*\*\*\*\*

College officials are looking for unnecessary or duplicated expenses which can be eliminated to help offset expected financial difficulties over the next two years.

In an effort to cut expenses the college laid off 12 academic

staff and five support staff on June 9.

Five programs were also eliminated for at least one year.

A week after the layoffs seven of the 12 academic staff and one support staff were recalled, partially due to the provincial government purchasing more spaces in the electrical apprenticeship program.

The college also offered an early retirement incentive in an effort to lessen the impact of the layoffs.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Guelph Student Association received \$7,000 in money held back by Conestoga College administration last year. The funds were withheld because the GSA's sloppy bookkeeping

habits had created untraceable records and lost receipts.

A part-time business manager will be hired to help get the GSA's records in order. The business manager will help other campuses except Doon.

\*\*\*\*\*

A woodworking manufacturing management program has been created for the 1989 school year at Doon campus.

A \$6-million woodworking centre was built to house the program.

Applications for the program are low and the college lowered its September enrolment target to 64 from 96.

\*\*\*\*\*

A smoking ban was imposed at all Conestoga College cam-

puses on June 1.

There are no penalties to enforce the no-smoking-policy, with college officials saying they are relying on the maturity of staff and students to make the policy work.

\*\*\*\*\*

There were also some minor stories since classes ended last April.

-There was a tuition increase of 4.5 per cent in the fall.

-Students will receive identity cards with photographs this fall. The cards will be issued to full-time students and employees.

-Conestoga College received \$120,000 from the Ministry of Colleges and Universities for special needs students.

## Nurses

continued from page 1

Marilyn Fischer, also a nurse at the Doon campus, said that the occupational health and safety department at both Doon and Guelph, will continue giving primary care to students and staff. Primary services include such things as headaches, upset stomachs and cuts.

Fischer said that although health prevention and promotion are vital parts of the department, nurses are not making any plans in those areas for the coming school year.

Fischer said a nurse will be at the Waterloo campus every Monday and Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Starting Sept. 15, a nurse will attend the Stratford campus every other Thursday.

Dr. John Kan will visit the Doon campus every Tuesday and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. He will see students by appointment.

## Pubs smoke-free

By Antony Saxon

In keeping with Conestoga College's no smoking policy, implemented June 1, people attending pubs on campus will not be permitted to smoke, nor will they be allowed to go outside for a cigarette and re-enter the pub.

Scott Hill, pub manager for the Doon Student Association (DSA), said that in discussions with college administration he got the impression that future pubs would be "at risk" if a smoking problem develops.

"There is no way we can keep people from doing it (smoking)," said Hill. "There is no legal policy."

Hill said that staff do have the power to remove people from the premises if they are not abiding by the rules.

The no re-entry policy also means that people will not be permitted to use the patio adjacent to the cafeteria for smoking. According to Hill, the no re-entry policy is an old one created to prevent people from sneaking into the pubs.

Cheryl Wilson, DSA activities co-ordinator, said tickets sold for the pubs will have the words "Conestoga College is a smoke-free environment" printed on them but posters advertising the events will not.

## Retention

continued from page 1

there to spot students who may be having difficulties and approach them to try and get them help. This may mean directing them to existing student services or peer tutoring or counselling if needed.

Tibbits said that Conestoga's retention rates are comparable to other colleges, but the college saw retention coaches as a means to fill three of its key objectives.

One objective is to help offset the financial difficulties the college is having by retaining more students.

Another objective, said Tibbits, is to help students and a third is to do something for the community by graduating more students in areas where there is a high demand for workers.



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# Students shown the ropes at orientation

By Lynne Gourley

The Kenneth E. Hunter recreation centre was the setting for welcoming new students to Conestoga College prior to last week's start of classes.

Tables were set up offering information and the Doon Student Association (DSA) handed out flyers informing first-year students about activities and events that take place at the college.

Varsity sports staff set up a table that included applications for school teams and information about how to get involved in school sports.

After the students were seated, personalities from the college welcomed them to the school and wished them luck in their studies.

John Bonesteel, registrar at Doon campus, joked with students, saying "the best thing that could ever happen to us is to meet in the woods, not in my office."

Students were shown a 10-minute slide presentation that explained numerous aspects of college life.

Bonesteel said that students would be required to obtain temporary identification cards that will expire in October. At that time new cards with photo-identification will be issued.

Doon principal Tony Martinek encouraged students to do well in their studies, but recommended that they take some time out to enjoy the leisure activities that Conestoga offers.

Dan Young, supervisor of athletics and campus recreation, had some fun with the students.

Young made students stand up and introduce themselves to a stranger. After the initial meeting, Young made the students introduce themselves to a member of the opposite sex, find out their first and last name, where they were from,

and if they wore anything to bed.

Byron Shantz, DSA president, welcomed the students to the college and encouraged them to join in all activities the college has to offer.

"Communication is a tough thing at the DSA," said Shantz, "because there are 3,000 of you and 11 of us."

Reaction to the information session was mixed.

Kim Rehkopf, a first-year early childhood education student, said she found orientation very disorganized.

"I found a lot of running around, getting my timetable. Then I was sent back to the registrar's office for more papers. Then I had to go over to the nurse."

Bill Chen, an accounting student, said he found orientation informative. "From it I felt that I could get



Photo by Lynne Gourley/Spoke

New students Mary Ann Hiff (left) and Kim Rehkopf

around the college on my own."

Mary Ann Hiff, a first-year marketing student, said that she was quite confident about getting around, but would be relying on a map to show her around the cam-

pus.

After the introduction, students were divided into programs and began a tour of the college and were introduced to some of the teaching staff.

## College operates new child-care centre

By Wendy Coles

The demand for adequate child care facilities has increased, creating a high demand for child care workers, says Donna McKenna, centre and program co-ordinator for the early childhood education (ECE) program at Conestoga College.

Those in need of care include pre-school children, those attending half-day kindergarten programs and those needing care before and after school hours, said McKenna.

The government now requires that all new schools in Ontario contain child-care centres. This has further increased the need for qualified child-care workers.

McKenna said the ECE program at Conestoga has expanded to meet

that need.

Two new child-care centres, operated by the college, opened at the beginning of September--at Glencairn public school and John Darling public school in Kitchener. These centres created openings for about 70 children and employ six full-time and six part-time child-care workers; said McKenna.

Prior to the openings of these centres the ECE program operated from a centre on the Doon campus that housed classrooms as well as day-care facilities that provided students with mandatory job training.

McKenna said the two new centres provide more work placements for students and has enabled the ECE program to almost double its enrolment.

The ECE program takes in students twice a year--in February and September. This year, 140 students have enrolled in the program, compared with 80 students in 1987, she said.

McKenna also said increased enrolment has created openings for three new faculty members. Student classes will now be taught at the Doon centre and Waterloo campus to accommodate the larger numbers.

In November, the college will open a fourth centre that is part of the Tall Pines condominium project in the Pioneer Park area of Kitchener. McKenna said the Tall Pines centre will allow an additional 35 students to enroll in the program next February, bringing the 1989 total to 175.

## ELECTION NOTICE

**FOUR PERSONS ARE TO BE ELECTED AS NON-VOTING MEMBERS OF THE CONESTOGA COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY BOARD OF GOVERNORS, ONE EACH FROM:**

\*All full and part-time students enrolled in a program of instruction leading to a document of recognition awarded by the Board of Governors;

**TERM OF OFFICE - JANUARY 1, 1989-DECEMBER 31, 1989.**

\*All full and part-time academic (teachers, sessional teachers, counsellors, and librarians) employed by the Board of Governors;

**TERM OF OFFICE - JANUARY 1, 1989-DECEMBER 31, 1990.**

\*All full and part-time support staff (office, clerical, technical, health care, maintenance, building service, shipping, transportation, cafeteria and nursery staff) employed by the Board of Governors;

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\*All full and part-time administrative staff employed by the Board of Governors;

**TERM OF OFFICE - JANUARY 1, 1989-DECEMBER 31, 1991.**

The terms of reference for these "elected" internal members are the same as those for external members of the Board of Governors.

Nomination notices will be posted on campus bulletin boards and nomination forms will be available on September 22, 1988.

Closing date for nominations;

**OCTOBER 14, 1988**

List of nominees to be posted on campus bulletin boards October 26, 1988.

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*Lyn McLeod*

Lyn McLeod  
Minister of Colleges and Universities

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I believe Ontario's extensive network of universities and colleges are crucial to the future of the province as it charts a course into a new era of intense and sophisticated international competition in the information age.



# Fernandes a flying success

By Lynne Gourley

John Fernandes, owner of two San Francisco's Restaurants and a graduate of the business administration program at Conestoga, seems to move into restaurants that were once inhabited by chickens.

"We get rid of the wings and we fly on our own," he joked, explaining that the restaurant he owns in Waterloo, that has been open for three years, used to be called Church's Chicken. His new restaurant in Kitchener, which opened nine months ago, used to be The Chicken House.

Fernandes, 26, who graduated from Conestoga in 1985, is a native of Portugal and describes himself as outgoing and energetic.

Fernandes entered the business program at Conestoga because he could graduate in three years, as opposed to university where he wouldn't graduate for four or five years.

Fernandes said that although the business program at Conestoga trains students adequately for a life in business, it's up to the individual to put it all together.

As far as improvements to the program go, Fernandes suggested that his favorite course, small business management, should be divided up into three different sections, so that all areas could be covered with more depth.

He also suggested that a course be added that teaches students export marketing. Fernandes said that he had to go to university to learn about international or export marketing.

Getting into the restaurant business came easy to Fernandes, who once worked for Swiss Chalet. He often went with his boss to Toronto to see hockey games at Maple

Leaf Gardens, and they would then stop off at a restaurant in Little Italy called San Francisco's, that served great food.

After graduation, Fernandes went to Toronto and asked the owners if he could open a restaurant in Waterloo called San Francisco's. He pointed out that San Francisco's is not a franchise. Instead, he made up a contract with the Italian owners who could barely speak English, letting him use the restaurant's name and recipes.

Apart from the initial dealing, the restaurants are not in any way connected.

Fernandes was able to start his restaurants by buying equipment from bankrupt businesses and obtaining bank financing.

Fernandes said that the hardest part of owning a business is the bank financing. "You almost feel like not going ahead with opening. They (banks) will make sure you know your homework."

He added that getting all the licences that are necessary for a business to operate is also a challenge.

Fernandes takes part in every aspect of the business, from cooking to banking to delivering of orders. He said jokingly that he has been to every dorm on the university campuses.

He is relieved that the summer months are a little slower because it gives him more time to spend with his wife and two children.

He said the University of Waterloo did a review on local pizza establishments and San Francisco's received a five-star rating. The next closest restaurant received three stars.

"I had my phone off the hook for over two weeks," said Fernandes. "I had just opened and I didn't have enough equipment to handle

the volume. I couldn't keep up, I had a hell-of-a time."

Fernandes said that his pizza is pretty well number one with the university crowd. His restaurant serves pizza during the pubs at Wilfrid Laurier University and the University of Waterloo.

The Kitchener restaurant caters more to the downtown core and serves as many as 400 slices of pizza during one lunch-hour.

Despite the fact that his restaurants are open seven days a week, he sometimes manages to "sneak away." When he does he likes to watch soccer games or movies.

Eventually he would love to get into the international marketing field, where he could combine his passion for travel along with business.

Fernandes is thankful that he does not have the employee problems of some other establishments, because his family members are on 24-hour-a-day call.

Fernandes stressed that family is a big part of his operation and at any time customers will find a member of his family in the restaurant.

Along with his family, 16 employees work at the restaurants.

Communication between him and the customers is the strongest link in the business, said Fernandes, who has become friendly with the university crowd, many of whom know him by name.

The Kitchener San Francisco's location attracts many avid soccer fans who come to watch the soccer games offered received through a satellite dish.

As a young entrepreneur, Fernandes has plans to make it big in the world of high finance, a status he has already achieved making dough in Kitchener-Waterloo.



Photo by Richard E. McLean/Spoke

Mary Wright, campus recreation officer

## Awareness week begins

By Richard E. McLean

To make students more aware of the affects of alcohol, a health promotion campaign is being offered at the Doon, Guelph and Waterloo campuses of Conestoga College.

The Campus Alcohol Policies and Education campaign (CAPE) is being divided into four separate weeks, the first one being scheduled for the week of September 19 to 23. Each week will have a different alcohol related theme such as drinking and driving, drinking and your health and reasons for drinking.

Mary Wright, recreation director for Doon campus, applied for a grant about a year ago when she first became aware of the program.

According to Wright, there will be information tables, buttons, posters and pamphlets available to students during

each theme week.

"This program is designed not to discourage drinking," said Wright, "but rather to promote responsible drinking habits."

During the first theme week of the campaign, a contest to find the best mocktail (a non-alcoholic cocktail) will be held. Students must register to enter the contest and create their own non-alcoholic drink. There will be a prize for the best mocktail and the drink will be featured at the following pub at the respective campuses.

The drinks will be judged by two or three people on taste, how they are served and presented, the name given to the drinks, appearance, and the type of glass served in.

The winning mocktails will be served in 14-ounce glasses, crested with 'Mocktails '88', at the pubs. People who buy the mocktails will be allowed to keep the glasses.

# Conestoga College students pay less for transit system

By Wendy Coles

Despite the fact that university students are getting a subsidy from the City of Waterloo for bus passes this year, Conestoga College students will still pay less per month to travel via Kitchener Transit.

Earlier this year, student representatives from both the univer-

sities and the college negotiated prices with Kitchener Transit for their own students, said Christine Wettlaufer, vice-president of the Doon Students Association (DSA). The DSA struck a deal that will cost students at the college \$145 for a four-month pass, said Wettlaufer. That works out to \$36.25 per month.

University students will pay \$110 for a three-month pass, which includes the \$10 subsidy from the City of Waterloo. That works out to a cost of \$36.67 per month.

According to Kitchener Transit, even though prices paid by both college and university students are not as cheap as the \$31.50 per

month high school students pay, it is still a discount from that of the regular cost of \$42 per month for an adult pass.

Byron Shantz, president of the DSA, said they were aware of the universities' efforts to get subsidization but hadn't given any thought to seeking similar help for

the college from the City of Kitchener.

Shantz said he felt the DSA had already struck a pretty good deal with Kitchener Transit and that the DSA was more concerned with concentrating on things like making regular busing available for students from Cambridge and other outlying areas.

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## Vicky's just one of the guys

By Maria K. Hooisma

Vicky Reich said that she was a little nervous when she went to her first class on Aug 19, but the guys in the program are great. At the Detweiler Centre at Conestoga's Doon campus, Reich is the only woman in the construction-maintenance electrician apprenticeship program.

"If women want to get into this field they should 'go for it' and realize that they have to put a lot into it," she said in an interview.

While taking the 52-week program, one of the requirements is to find a job in the electrical field. Reich is working at Culliton Bros., Stratford.

"You have to prove yourself in order to get a job," said Reich.

She said that once you get through the program, you can do the repairs around the house and not have to rely on someone else. The possibility of working on friends homes or just on weekends is always there, said Reich.

Prior to enrolment in the program, Reich worked in a lighting showroom selling fixtures. Her interest in electrical work developed from helping fellow workers.



Photo by Maria K. Hooisma/Spoke

Vicky Reich, the only woman in the electrical program

For the past three years Reich has lived in Sebringville, six miles outside of Stratford.

Reich is married and the mother of Jason and Michael, 10-year-old twin boys.

"My kids come first," said Reich, "if they were younger it would be harder for me to be in school."

"I study about four hours every night and all day Saturday and Sunday. I can't study at home. I find a quiet place after

school and my husband, Jim, makes sure that the kids get their supper." She added that after she has her certificate, working prospects will include working in an office, on blueprints, or in the electrical field.

She said that she doesn't feel uncomfortable being the only woman in the program.

"I just want to be one of the guys. I don't want to be treated special," said Reich.

## Conestoga prepared in event of an emergency

By Lynne Gourley

In the event of an emergency, Conestoga College will be prepared.

The Emergency Response Team - established November 1984 -- is ready to contend with such things as fires, snowstorms, and false alarms.

The team is comprised of 12 volunteers, some of which come from physical resources and the rest made up of faculty and support staff.

Barry Milner, manager of physical resources, said the team has been trained to respond to an emergency situation and have been given instructions on first-aid, basic fire safety and cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR). In addition, the team must have an understanding of all buildings and

grounds on the campus.

Milner said the team is used most often in fire alarms. The last time the team was used was July 15, when a heat sensor located on the first floor overheated, setting off a fire alarm.

Edna Lidbetter, assistant manager for physical resources, said that a potentially dangerous situation occurred in 1978, when a snowstorm hit the region. She said that injured people were brought into the college and were taken care of until help was available to them.

Milner said the team is equipped with safety vests, hard hats and flashlights.

He said that between 33 per cent and 50 per cent are physical resources staff, the rest include faculty who may specialize in such things as electricity and engineering. A nurse is also part of the response team.

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# New peer help service based on students helping other students

By Richard McLean

Conestoga College's Doon campus has a new peer helping service based on the premise that students listen to other students.

Peer helping involves second or third-year students helping new students adapt to the college and gets them involved in recruiting prospective students.

Students involved in the assisting part of the program could be doing different things, such as visiting high schools and high school information nights, conducting tours of the college, assisting students with special needs—such as reading for the visually impaired—and leading workshops.

The peer helping service is a model program developed by Valerie Allen, a graduate of Conestoga College's social services program. Allen said the peer helping service is still evolving.

During 1986-87, Allen was under

a nine-month contract with Conestoga College to do extensive research on the need for peer help. During that time she contacted various North American colleges and different programs and service areas to receive input.

Allen developed the model peer helping service for a pilot program at the Doon campus and said she hopes it will be expanded to the other campuses.

Because this is a pilot program, the business and technology programs will be initially targeted, said Allen.

The screening of students to be involved in the peer helping service begins with a recommendation from a program co-ordinator, said Allen. The students should be academically stable, to prevent falling behind in his or her own work.

"I'd hate to see students fall back because they are helping other students," said Allen.

Students should have some basic communication skills and leadership qualities. The students chosen for the program will be trained in a 20-hour training program that teaches human relation skills.

The training will probably be broken into one full day and then several two- or three-hour blocks after school.

Allen said students who go through the human relations training will be more marketable because "everyone must interact with other people at some time."

Allen is getting the program started under her second nine-month contract with Doon campus and is optimistic it will work.

"I think it (peer helping service) has the potential to be very successful," she said.

Allen said she sees students as a natural resource, like a well of abilities waiting to be used.

"What better way to tap this resource," she said, "than to talk to other students."



Photo by Cathy Zegers/Spoke

## Dig in!

Peter Higgins digs up the ground for a new patio to be built outside of the cafeteria at the Doon campus of Conestoga College. The new patio will replace the old crumbling one.

## Decal warning meaningless: police

By Lynne Gourley

A warning on this year's parking permits stating that they must be removed from rear view mirrors before driving is meaningless.

Bob Gilberts, security supervisor at the college, said that he does not expect the regulation to be followed, nor will anyone be penalized for not removing the permits. The warning is printed in small type.

Constable Eric Ranta, of the Waterloo regional police, said that a parking decal may remain on a car "as long as it doesn't obstruct the driver's view."

It is illegal in some American states to drive with the decals on the car. The permits were printed by a firm in Ft. Smith, Arkansas.

Slater said that the college checked with two police departments and they said there would be no problem with the decals.

## Clinic meant to clear the air

By Cathy Zegers

In order to help create a smoke-free environment, Conestoga College is holding smoking cessation clinics at all of its campuses.

"If we won't allow them to smoke on the premises we should give them some help," said Susan Heath, a nurse at Stratford campus who is organizing clinics for the fall term.

Heath said the college's no smoking policy will "make people think about quitting."

The clinic provides a support group for people who want to

quit smoking that operates on the buddy system. If people feel the need to smoke, they call someone in the group for support.

Heath said professionals will speak at the clinics on such subjects as nutrition, biology, stress management and psychology.

Margaret Ennis, a nurse at Guelph campus, planned the clinics. She researched different smoking cessation programs offered in the community, receiving advice from doctors, the Smoke-Enders program and the Lung Association.

Heath said Smoke-Enders is

the most successful clinic. "This is because the monetary commitment makes it successful."

Based on this idea the college is charging a \$5 fee for its clinics. This money will go towards refreshments.

Conestoga held its first smoking cessation clinic in April 1987.

"The clinics were very successful considering we hadn't gone smoke free," Heath said.

The clinics start in September or October, depending on the campus, and run for seven weekly sessions.



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## Special attention for special needs

By Maria K. Hooisma

Conestoga College will be giving special attention to students with special needs.

A special needs student is defined as a person who is either physically disabled, emotionally disturbed, speech and language impaired, learning disabled, hearing impaired, or multi-handicapped.

Barb Kraler, special needs counsellor at Conestoga College's Doon campus, said students should identify themselves early in the college year.

She said last year an informal gathering for special needs students was arranged by a special needs student--Doug Herzog and it proved to be informative.

The students attending, however,

felt that it should have been held earlier.

Herzog is a graduate of the business management course and was the student representative on the Doon campus special needs committee.

Kraler said that since Bill 82 (creating obligations at a primary and secondary level by educational institutions for special needs students) was approved, more students are being identified in high school as special needs students.

There is also a trend which has seen more special needs students wanting post-secondary education and although the college is not obligated to enforce Bill 82, it is looking into accommodating the growing numbers of special needs students.

This will be made easier by a \$120,000 government grant the college received for special needs students over the summer.

Special needs is a growing part of the daily life at Conestoga, said Kraler, and developing awareness through group discussions with students and faculty is one way to make the transition easier for everyone, she added.

It is necessary to clarify that in no way are special needs students required to identify themselves as such, said Kraler. To do so would violate their rights.

Kraler said there is confidential help and guidance available if the student requires it and each Conestoga College campus has a contact person.

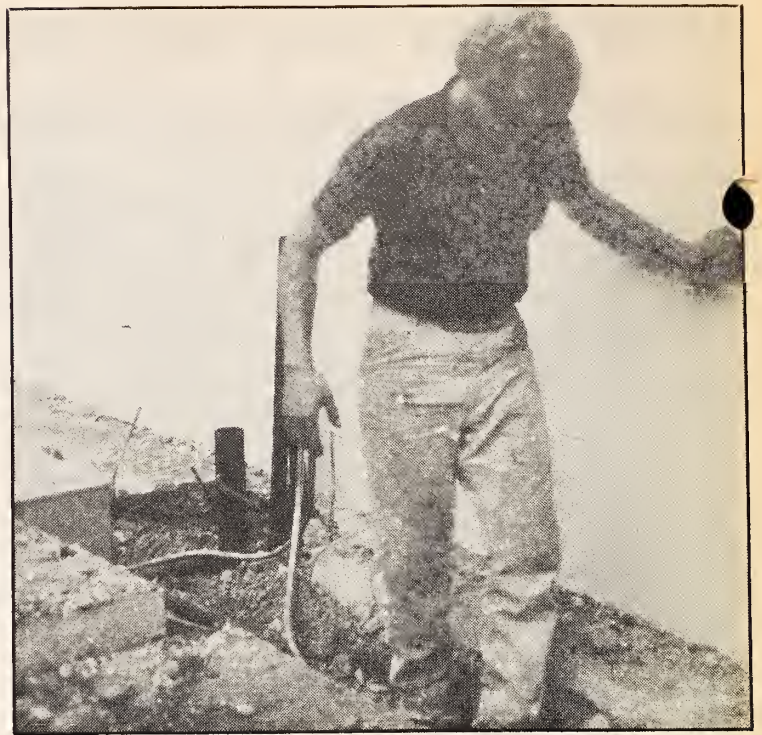


Photo by Maria K. Hooisma/Spoke

### Plumbing laid to rest

Ken Podhornik, a plumber with J.D. Nichols Plumbing and Heating Ltd., covers piping in the sub-cafeteria room at the Doon campus of Conestoga College.

## English course helps integrate immigrants into society



Marg Vellinga

By Cathy Zegers

The English as a second language course, offered at several Conestoga College campuses, is helping landed immigrants fit into Canadian society.

The Canadian Employment and Immigration Commission (CEIC) sponsors most students in the course by paying their tuition fees and by giving a living allowance to those who need it. The amount of this allowance is based on how many people are in the student's family. There are also some fee-

paying students, but all students must have landed-immigrant status to be eligible for the course.

Marg Vellinga, a teacher of the course, said the CEIC dictates that the students should know "enough oral language within six months to function in the work place."

English as a second language courses are held at Waterloo, Guelph and Cambridge. They are occasionally held at Stratford, depending on demand.

When the students register they are given an oral pre-test to assess

their level of English proficiency. This ascertains which level they should start at. There are three basic levels: beginner, intermediate and advanced.

The course runs for 24 weeks and the students advance at their own pace. Vellinga said there is a "fast-tracker" program for students who don't need the full 24 weeks allowing them to move through at an accelerated pace.

Vellinga said although most students usually finish the course in 24 weeks, there are some who don't.

She said the success of the students depends on their educational background, and how much English they've been exposed to.

At the moment, if a student hasn't finished all levels within 24 weeks they cannot stay longer.

Vellinga would like to see a special extended program for the slower learners like the one they have for the fast-trackers, teachers often put in extra time helping students.

Vellinga said there have been some exceptions to the 24 week limit. A group of H'Mong people from Laos were given one year of classes when the CEIC decided they would need that long to assimilate.

The performance of the students is judged more on their classroom work than tests. "The test isn't the be all and end all," Vellinga said.

Oral tests are held monthly and teachers usually give weekly written quizzes.

Right now Waterloo campus has ten classes. Vellinga said this number varies with demand.

Waterloo has ten full-time staff and several supply teachers.

The teachers need to have some training. There is a training service offered on Waterloo campus and University of Toronto offers teachers training courses.

Vellinga said to teach this course successfully you have to love what you're doing. She teaches the beginners who speak very little or no English. She said she strives for

total immersion in teaching them.

In the beginning she relies largely on body language to communicate with the students. She starts by saying "Hello my name is Marg. What is your name?" Starting here the students get the basic structure. Vellinga said, "The course has a curriculum, but it isn't carved into stone." It's more of a guide for the teachers to follow and is constantly changing to meet the needs of the students, she said.

There are two basic parts to the course.

The first part is grammar study which teaches the students the basics of English grammar. They first learn how to say their name, address and basic verbs, such as to be.

Vellinga calls the second area survival study. This involves teaching the students how to get along in Canadian society.

The topics covered include banking, making phone calls, filling out job interviews and other important basics.

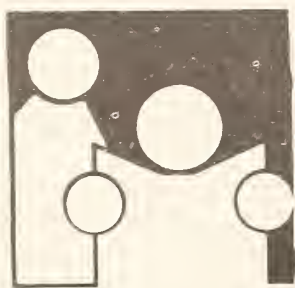
She added that about 83 per cent of all the students entering the course are employed afterwards. They work in areas such as sewing, farmhands, factory work and meat packers.

Most of the graduates remain in the Kitchener-Waterloo area. According to Vellinga this is because of the low unemployment rate, the fact that it's a nice area to raise a family and it's less expensive to live here than Toronto.

The teachers try to give the students practical experiences by taking them on field trips to banks, Kitchener-Waterloo Hospital and grocery stores.

When the students are finished the course they receive an English as a second language certificate.

Most of the students in the course come from Central America, Poland and East Asia.



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# Sports

## Condor soccer team lineup incomplete

By Brian Williams

The men's varsity soccer team is expected to have eight of last year's contingent returning for the upcoming season -- including league-leading scorer Marcel Desmuelles -- but some big holes in the lineup remain unfilled.

One of those gaps is the position of goalkeeper, said Duane Shadd, assistant soccer coach and co-ordinator of membership and leisure services at the college. Last season's Condor all-star goalie, Dirk Kerbs, is not returning.

The other major vacancy in the lineup resulted from the absence of all-star Giulio Mior who has completed college and will be returning as an assistant coach. Shadd hopes returning players like Sante Didonato or Kim Brown will be

able to fill in for Mior.

He said the team will be looking for leadership from players like all-star Desmuelles and Robert Cecomancini. The two handle the ball well and give 180 per cent.

Shadd, 37, thinks the team has pride and said they were one goal away from a birth in the Ontario championships last year. A loss to Mohawk college in a single-game, knock-out situation ended their chances.

The only time the Condors won an Ontario championship was in 1979 -- also the first year Shadd and Geoff Johnstone, head coach and faculty member, coached together.

Johnstone was the Western division coach of the year last season.

"You always know where you stand with Geoff," said Shadd, ad-

ding that Johnstone is straight-forward, honest and has a good knowledge of the game.

He said last year's club was not gifted overall, but had more desire to win than any of the Condor teams in the past six years. Since 1979, Shadd said the Condors have had only one losing season. Last year's record of 7-2-1 landed them in second place in the Western division.

Seneca College was traditionally the strong team in the west, but have moved to the Eastern division for the coming season.

"They've been a powerhouse," Shadd said about Seneca who have won the championship four times in the last five years, including a national title in 1985-86. When the Condors won the title in 1979 there wasn't a national championship.

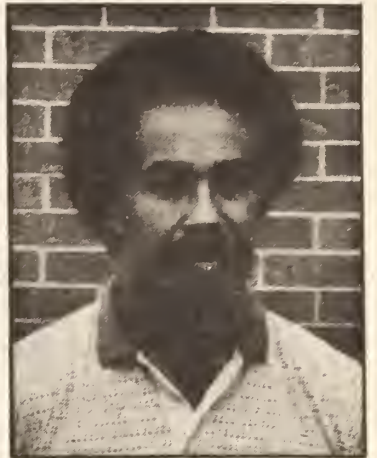
The Condors usually have about 25 players at tryouts.

School is first priority for the players and Shadd said the coaches don't want players falling behind in their school work. He added they have usually had full co-operation from faculty in this area with players being able to keep up their studies and still play on the team.

Shadd's role as assistant coach involves such duties as looking after injuries if there isn't a trainer, warm-ups and informing Johnstone if he notices a player is tired or making errors.

The field now used for home games at the college was first used last year and Shadd said it looks like most of the grass is recovering from the recent drought.

Before last year the team had to play on other fields in the area.



Duane Shadd

Shadd said that having the games played at the college helps because players respond to the fan support.

## New coach looking forward to coming basketball season

By Brian Williams

Anne Smith, the new coach of the women's varsity basketball team, is looking forward to getting back into the game.

Smith, who is married and has two daughters, received her degree in physical education in 1977 from McMaster University where she played basketball for three years. Due to an injury, she didn't play in her fourth year.

As a result of the injury she gained valuable experience videotaping the team's games, editing the film and watching the tapes with the coach.

Smith has been doing research in preparation for the coming season by getting ideas from

other coaches. She said she is starting to think basketball again.

Smith said that once you get the basketball bug it never leaves, and when she saw the advertisement for the vacant coaching position in the paper, she applied.

She has about five years coaching experience at family YMCAs and at the Hamilton recreation centre when she attended university.

Smith said the major change in the game since her playing days is that the girls coming out of high school are better skilled. Her goal is to have players improve their skills while enjoying the game.

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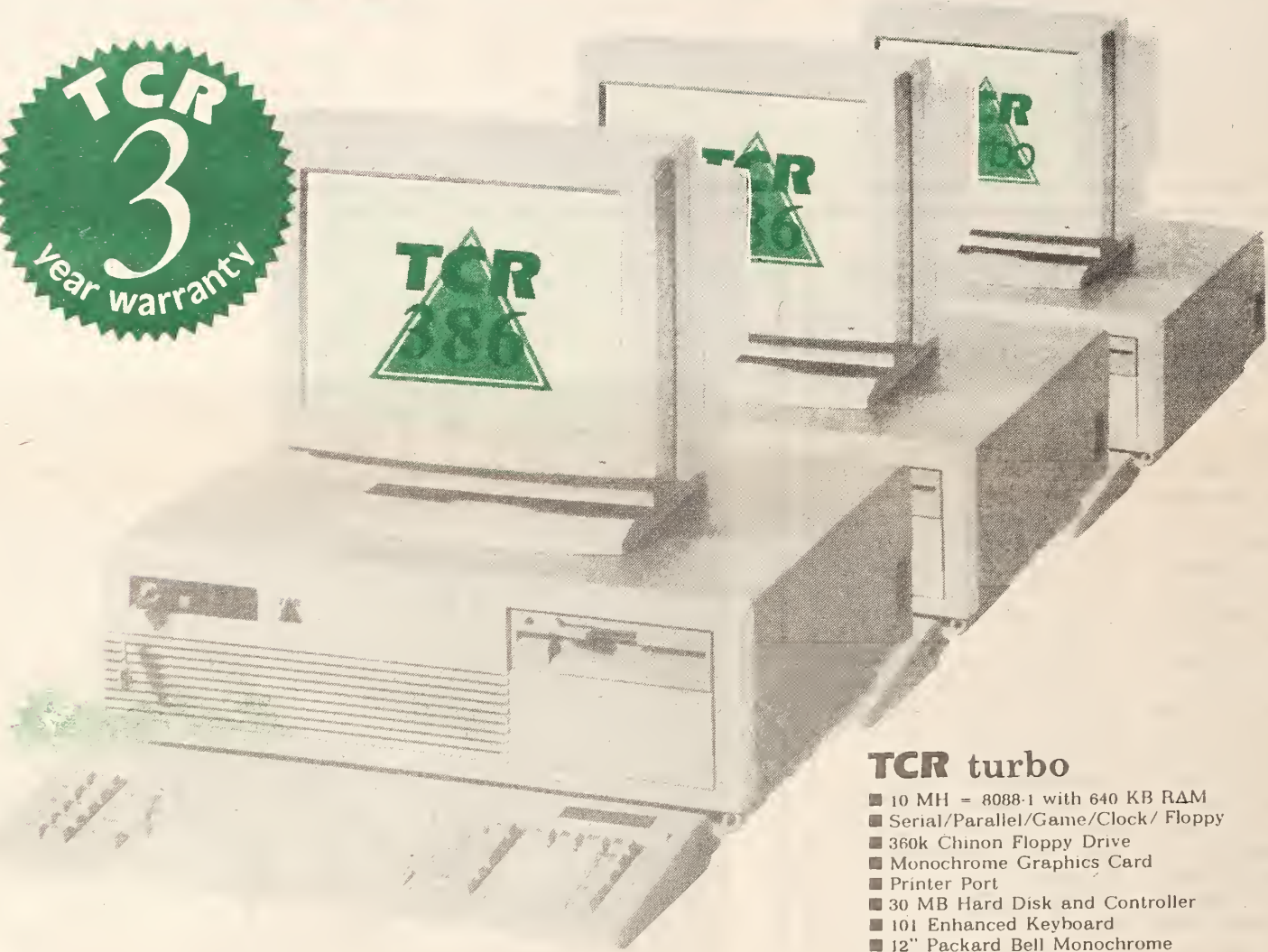




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